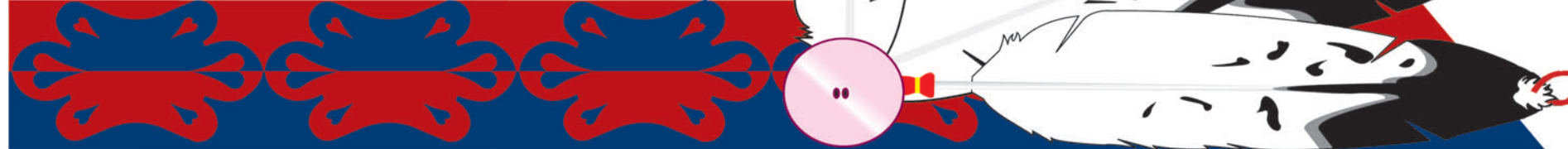


MENOMINEE NATION NEWS



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NAES holds education classes

Llona Tucker-May
Menominee Nation News

On Friday, March 29th a handful of select students finished up a week long session of classes on Theoris of Learning and Native American Children.

The class was approved by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) for teacher renewal and designed to familiarize students with the foundations, principles, and theories related to learning.

According to instructor, Lauren "Candy" Waukau-Villagomez, Ed. D, she hoped to help students by teaching through lectures, readings, written assignments, class discussions, collaborative group work and independant study.

Students were expected to do a one page abstract research paper, a daily journal, develop a personal theory of learning, and a group presentation by grade level or in the area of their interest.

During their presentations students spoke of their teaching techniques or how they planned to help students achieve knowledge of our culture, hertige and language.

Continued on page 5, Teachers . . .

Menominee celebrates the return of the sturgeon



L. Tucker-May/MNN

Above- Students from MIMS and Menominee Language Trainees help in placing one of eleven sturgeon into Chicknee Creek. The delivery of the sturgeon starts off the Return of the Sturgeon Ceremonies that are observed by the Menominee Tribe.

Llona Tucker-May
Menominee Nation News

On Saturday April, 20th the Menominee Nation held its annual sturgeon return ceremony with a feast and day long pow-wow. The event was celebrated after 11 fish were delivered by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on Tuesday, April 16th.

Since the late 1800's when dams were erected in Shawano on the Wolf River, the annual spring migration of Lake Winnebago Sturgeon to our area had come to a stop. For untold generations the sturgeon

naturally migrated to Keshena Falls, which was a traditional spawning grounds for them.

According to David Grignon (Nahwahquaw), Director of the Menominee Tribal Historic Preservation Department, after long winter months the Menominee's would wait for the annual return of the sturgeon to replenish their food supply.

"Ceremonies and dancing would follow the first catch of sturgeon and the significance of that would be told and celebrated," said Grignon. Also he advised that the sturgeon was also used in prepara-

tion of traditional medicine for our people.

It is only natural that the Menominee people would continue on with this tradition, although the Lake Winnebago Sturgeon could not naturally migrate to our area on their own.

Since the fish now have to be delivered by the state DNR, a new tradition for the sturgeon's return has been created to resemble ceremonies of past.

For the past nine years community members gather at Chickeny Creek before the Sturgeon feast to watch the sacred fish being returned to their native waters.


Area students participate in this event, by carrying the sturgeon in their nets down to the rivers edge. This year Becky Hawpetoss' Menominee Language/Culture Class students from MIMS volunteered their time during the delivery.

Before the delivery, Hawpetoss took her class to the Menominee Indian High School Museum. Once there the students viewed the remains of an ancient sturgeon and learned some of our history of celebrating its return.

Continued on page 3, Sturgeon . . .

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